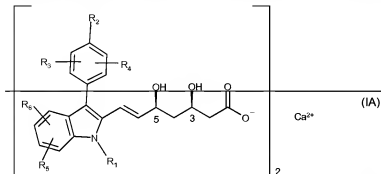


In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A crystalline calcium salt of (E)-(3R,5S)-(+)-7-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-(1-methyl-ethyl)-1H-indol-2-yl]-3,5-dihydroxy-6-heptenoic acid ~~the formula~~



wherein R_1 is isopropyl; R_2 is fluorine, R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and R_6 are independently hydrogen; and the hydroxyl group at the 3 position is in the R configuration and at the 5 position in the S configuration; or an enantiomer or a hydrate thereof which has a powder X-ray diffraction pattern with maxima at 2θ values of 5.3, 11.8, 13.9, 17.5, 19.1, 22.0 and 23.1 and which has a melting point of about 220°C.

2-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising:
a therapeutically effective amount of ~~[[a]] the~~ calcium salt according to claim ~~[[7]] 1~~ in combination with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for treating hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipoproteinemia, dyslipidemia and atherosclerosis, comprising:
administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of ~~[[a]] the~~ calcium salt according to claim ~~[[7]] 1~~.